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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

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CC 92-77

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October 3, 1994

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

The Honorable Charles W. Stenholm  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1211 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Stenholm:

Thank you for your fax on behalf of Jack W. Dieken, Sheriff, County of Taylor, regarding the Commission's Billed Party Preference (BPP) proceeding. On May 19, 1994, the Commission adopted a Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in this proceeding. I have enclosed a copy of the Further Notice and press release accompanying it for your information.

The Further Notice sets forth a detailed cost/benefit analysis of BPP. This analysis indicates, based on the available data, that the benefits of BPP to consumers would exceed its costs. The Further Notice seeks comment on this analysis and asks interested parties to supplement the record concerning the costs and benefits of BPP. The Further Notice also invites parties to recommend alternatives to BPP that could produce many of the same benefits at a lower cost.

The Further Notice also explicitly seeks comment on whether correctional facility telephones should be exempt if BPP is adopted. Specifically, the Further Notice seeks additional information on the effectiveness and costs of controlling fraud originating on inmate lines with or without BPP. The Further Notice also seeks comment on a proposal to exempt prison telephones from BPP if the operator service provider adheres to rate ceilings for inmate calling services.

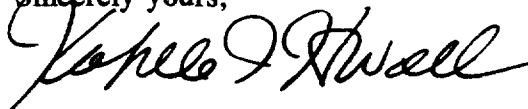
BPP would not preclude prison officials from blocking or limiting inmate calls to specific telephone numbers in order to prevent threatening and harassing calls. Moreover, BPP would not affect the ability of prison officials to limit inmates to collect calling or to program telephone equipment at the prison site to block certain numbers.

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The Honorable Charles W. Stenholm  
Page 2

Thank you for your interest in this proceeding. I can assure you that the Commission will carefully examine all of the comments submitted in response to the Further Notice, including additional empirical data regarding the costs and benefits of implementing BPP and the impact of BPP on telephone service from correctional facilities.

Sincerely yours,



Kathleen M.H. Wallman  
Chief  
Common Carrier Bureau

Enclosures



CHARLES W. STENHOLM

17TH DISTRICT  
TEXASCOMMITTEES:  
BUDGET

AGRICULTURE

CHAIRMAN OF SUBCOMMITTEE  
ON DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS  
AND NUTRITION

DEMOCRATIC DEPUTY WHIP

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

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## FAX TRANSMISSION COVER SHEET

TO: Lyndon Booger DATE: 9/21/94FAX NUMBER: 418-2806 NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER: 3

\_\_\_ THE HONORABLE CHARLES W. STENHOLM

\_\_\_ AUER, LOIS

☒ FARMER, DANIELLE

\_\_\_ FAUST, MICHAEL

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\_\_\_ INTERN

• Our fax number is: 202-225-2234

COMMENTS: Thanks Lyndon!

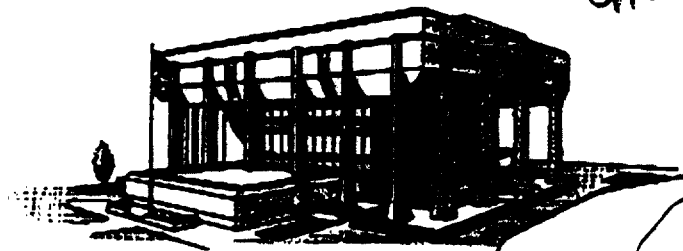
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CHF

# County Of Taylor

Abilene, Texas

**JACK W. DIEKEN, Sheriff**  
450 Pecan Street  
Abilene, Texas 79602-1692  
June 28, 1994



Phone Number  
(915) 674-1300

Hon. Reed E. Hundt  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M. Street, N. W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Billed Party Preference; CC Docket 92-77

Dear Mr. Hundt and Members of the Commission:

It has been brought to my attention that the Billed Party Preference (BPP) proposal will soon be brought before the Commission for consideration. Please be aware that I vigorously oppose BPP for the following reasons:

1. I am continually irritated by federal intervention and controls over local management issues, particularly how to run and select the telephone system used in this County's Adult Detention Center (Jail). The revenue generated by inmate phone calls is used to help pay for programs and equipment and supplies which are provided to inmates at no additional tax burdens to local tax payers. In essence, criminals pay for what they wear and use while in jail. This is as it should be. Criminals prey on the fortunes of the honest, working person anticipating that if caught the same persons upon whom they prey will defray the cost of the criminal's incarceration. BPP as I understand it will take this ability away from local Sheriffs and transfer the cost to local tax payers.

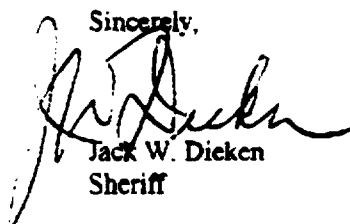
2. BPP will take away security measures which permit jail administrators to block nuisance and unwanted calls made by inmates to victims, prosecutors, officers and jurors. Believe me when I tell you inmates abuse and disrupt every system with which they come in contact. Inmates become a sub-culture within our society. Inmates delight in circumventing rules and procedures just for the sake of doing it. If you approve BPP, you will take away a valuable tool incorporated in current inmate phone systems. We constantly use "blocks" to protect citizens from unwanted, unsolicited telephone calls from inmates.

I feel that my jail administrators are in the best position to know what phone system and what procedures are necessary to operate a proper jail function than some federal agency in Washington, D.C. Regulations should be administered at the lowest level of government possible not the highest.

I strongly oppose the BPP issue and I request that it be defeated.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Jack W. Dieken  
Sheriff

**Mr. Reed E. Hundi**  
**June 28, 1994**  
**Page 2**

**cc: Congressman Charles Stenholm**  
**Senator Phil Gramm**  
**Senator Bill Sims**  
**Representative Bob Hunter**  
**Inmate Phone Service Providers Task Force**